

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/941,591

Applicant(s)

YAMAZAKI, TATSUYA

Examiner

Yogesh K. Aggarwal

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/30/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 6,7,12,24,25,30,38,41,43-50 (The claims have been renumbered as 1-16 respectively).
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 11/02/05,05/25/05
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
- ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Daniel Glueck on March 17, 2006 and April 5, 2006 respectively.

2. The application has been amended as follows:
 - a. Claims 1-5, 13-23, 31-37, 39, 40 and 42 have been cancelled.
 - b. Claim 41: line 4, change "angular velocity in vibration of an apparatus, the computer program product effecting a method;" to "angular velocity in vibration of an apparatus, the computer program product **being stored in a computer-readable storage medium and** effecting a method;"

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 6, 7, 12, 24, 25, 30, 38, 41 and 43-50 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record, neither anticipates nor renders obvious the following limitations as claimed:
[Claim 6]: An apparatus comprising: a limiting device that in a case where an output of said vibration detection device is equal to or larger than a first predetermined amplitude value and is smaller than a second predetermined amplitude value, limits the output by using a first limitation

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manner in which a first predetermined attenuation ratio is multiplied onto the output so as to make the output continuously leading to an output of the first predetermined amplitude value. and in a case where the output is equal to or larger than the second predetermined amplitude value, selects one of (a) limiting the output using a second limitation manner in which a second predetermined attenuation ratio which provides an attenuation action larger than that provided by the first predetermined attenuation ratio is multiplied onto the output and (b) setting the output into a constant amplitude value so as to make the output continuously leading to an output of the second predetermined amplitude value.

[Claim 24]: Claim 24 contains limitations similar to claim 6.

[Claims 38 and 41]: Claims 38 and 41 are method and computer program storage claims corresponding to claim 24.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yogesh K. Aggarwal whose telephone number is (571) 272-7360. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00AM-5:30PM.

5. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Ometz can be reached on (571)-272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

YKA

March 20, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Ometz', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

DAVID OMETZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER